

## THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

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## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.

Money sent us otherwise than by registered letter, postal money order, express order, or draft on New York, will be at the risk of the sender.

Agents.—The NATIONAL TRIBUNE has many volunteer canvassers, and they are generally honest and faithful; but persons who consider their subscriptions to them must be their own judges of their responsibility. The paper will be sent only on the receipt of the subscription price.

Addresses, Renewals, etc.—Addresses will be changed as often as desired, but each subscriber should in every case give the old as well as the new address.

Correspondence.—Correspondence is solicited from every section in regard to Grand Army, Sons of Veterans, Pension, and Military matters, and letters to the Editor will always receive prompt attention. Write on one side of the paper only. We do not return communications or manuscripts unless they are accompanied by a request to that effect and the necessary postage, and under no circumstances guarantee their publication at any special date.

Address all communications to

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JOHN McLELLY, ROBERT W. SHOPELLE,

BYRON ANDREWS.

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Office: 339 Pennsylvania Avenue N. W.

NATIONAL TRIBUNE HEADQUARTERS.

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE Headquarters

at Chicago during the National Encampment

will be in Parlor K, Palmer

House, and all comrades, their wives and

families are cordially invited to call and

make themselves at home. They can

make appointments to meet their friends

there, and have their mail sent to that room

in our care.

BOARD OF PENSION APPEALS.

The bill to establish a Court of Pension

Appeals is now completed, and will be

introduced into the House before adjournment.

It is very carefully drawn, and pro-

vides for an independent Court of full pow-

ers. Unfortunately it was too late for pas-

sage at this session.

The Administration is acting as if sin-

cerely in earnest that no guilty man shall

escape in Cuba.

SENATOR GALLINGER was defeated in

another scheme to fasten a costly commis-

sion on the Treasury. He was sharply

scored by some of his brother Senators.

The Times of Carroll, Iowa, is doing a

good and patriotic thing in publishing

sketches of the veterans of its neighbor-

hood. This vivifies and makes real in the

minds of the present generation the history

of the awful struggle of 1861-5.

JIM CORBETT wants to break away from

the saloon business, the usual vocation of

defeated pugilists, and come to Congress.

He thinks his talent for tireless talking

ought to win him \$5,000 a year and per-

quisites.

ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE PORTS

Bristow feels confident that the extent of

the Cuban steal will be between \$80,000

and \$100,000, independent of how many

of the \$400,000 worth of surcharged

stamps Neely may have used. Neely's

methods were simplicity itself. He kept

one-half of all the money he received.

COMMISSIONER EVANS had every reason

to be alarmed by Representative

Miers's resolution of inquiry. There are

matters connected with that Chicago raid

that are unprintable, and if they should

come to the knowledge of the country

would make too heavy a load for the

Commissioner to carry.

In spite of the earnest remonstrances

of every veteran in the House of Repre-

sentatives, Speaker Henderson deter-

mined that the House should sit on Mem-

orial Day, and it did sit, though it

tried to "take the cuss off" by an hour

or two given to the passage of private

pension bills. There was positively no ex-

cuse for this. There was no imperative

necessity for adjourning June 6. A day

later would have made little difference,

or night sessions might have been held.

Of all bodies, the House of Representa-

tives should be the most exemplary in

paying respect to the National Sabbath.

The Senate adjourned.

THERE is enough in the history of Rus-

sia to warrant the belief that the dis-

turbances in China are the result of her

machinations. Her favorite method of

acquiring territory is to stir up troubles

in a country upon which she has designs,

and then send her troops in to preserve

the peace. She has done this for centu-

ries in the Crimea, in the Valley of the

Danube, and Asia Minor, and by it gained

all the territory she has around the Black

Sea, the Caspian, and in Central Asia.

She now wants to send troops into China

to restore order. If she once gets an

army there, and secures a predominating

influence, the whole country will quickly

become hers. Our Government is acting

wisely and promptly in having us repre-

sented at Peking by an armed force.

THERE came near being an exposure

which would have shocked the country, in

the House last Monday, when Represen-

tative Miers, of Indiana, insisted on the

adoption of his resolution of inquiry into

the proceedings of Special Examiners

Goodlove and others, during the investi-

gation of the pensioners at Chicago last

Fall. If the resolution had gone through

there would have been some startling de-

velopments. Speaker Henderson was in-

formed of the danger, rallied his forces,

and cut off debate by a technical ruling,

leaving the resolution in the hands of the

Committee on Invalid Pensions. The vote

upon the consideration of the resolution

was 114 to 131—a pretty close shave.

MASSACHUSETTS refuses to abolish the

death penalty. She wants men who dis-

like to be killed themselves to refrain

from killing others.

## APPEAL TO THE PRESIDENT.

An Open Letter to the Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic.

COMRADES: Ever since Mr. Evans's entry into office he and his friends have persistently claimed that his course has received the approval of the great mass of the Grand Army of the Republic, and that all the feeling against him existed among a small proportion of chronic grumblers, fomented and encouraged by claim attorneys. He has filled the public prints with statements to this effect, not hesitating to charge that the Department Encampments, and even the National Encampments, were controlled by pension attorneys. It is believed that he has succeeded in impressing the President with this idea.

Now there is one last resort left to us—one appeal which we have hesitated to make in hopes that it would not be necessary to make it. It is to make a poll of the Posts of the whole Order, and have them say directly to the President, whether or not they approve of the Commissioner of Pensions and his course, and desire his continuance in office.

If the Posts will do this at once it will bring the matter to an issue and decide the controversy. THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, at least, will cheerfully accept the decision, whichever way it may be, and do all in its power to carry out the expressed wishes of the majority.

Our plan is this: Let every Post in the Grand Army of the Republic at its next regular meeting introduce and act upon a resolution framed something like this:

Resolved, That this Post cordially approves (or disapproves) of the management of the Pension Bureau by Mr. Henry Clay Evans, and desires (or opposes) his continuance in the office.

When the resolution is acted upon, let it be at once formally certified to the President in some such form as this:

Headquarters \_\_\_\_\_ Post,  
No. \_\_\_\_\_, Department of \_\_\_\_\_ G. A. R.,  
(Name of town and date.)

To the President of the United States.

Sir: At a regular meeting of this Post, held on \_\_\_\_\_, a resolution was adopted by a vote of \_\_\_\_\_ cordially approving (or disapproving) of the administration of the Pension Bureau by Mr. Henry Clay Evans, and desiring (or opposing) his continuance in the office.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_, Adjutant.

At the same time that the communication is sent to the President, let THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE be notified of the Post's action.

Now, comrades, let us urge upon you, as the time is short, and the necessity for immediate action pressing, that you bring this up at the very next meeting of your Post, and secure action upon it.

Remember that every Post not heard from will be counted in favor of Evans.

Yours, in P., C. and L.,

THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.

\*No matter if you have done this before, do it again, to make solid ranks.

## THE REBEL FLAGS.

Again there is a recrudescence of the return of the rebel battle-flags. The gushy-mushy proponents forget some very fundamental considerations. The first is as to whom the flags should be returned. Certainly not to the States, for the States never were in rebellion. Not for a moment did any officer of the United States, from President Lincoln down to a Second Lieutenant, ever recognize that any State was at war with the United States, or that the men in the rebel army were there in obedience to their State's orders.

From first to last the rebels were treated as individuals, and unlawful combinations of individuals. They had no more legal status than Deb's combinations for riot at Chicago. These combinations having ceased to exist, there is no one to return the flags to. To give them back to the States would be to overturn the whole logic of the war, and make the admission that the States can make war on the Government as a traitor to its State.

As the States can not and should not receive the flags, and as the organizations which formerly owned the banners have long since ceased to exist, what right has any individual, or any number of individuals, to what was once common property? An illegal organization can have no legal heirs, administrators or assigns. There is nobody that the flags can be properly returned to.

And what can be the possible good of publicly parading in any way these hateful emblems of a direful calamity wickedly precipitated upon a peaceful country? Why not let them rot in oblivion?

The humiliating ending of the Boer war seems to indicate what many people have believed from the first—that the two Republics have been ruled by a brutal, ignorant little oligarchy, who have grasped power, and used it for their own self-aggrandizement, and without thought or care for the people at large. Consequently, outside of these rings, the people have never had any real heart in the struggle. They saw in it merely a question of whether Kruger and his crowd should grab all the proceeds of the gold mines, or whether men under British protection should have it. Between the two, they saw that they would have more freedom and more rights under the British rule, and therefore they had no soul in the war. Nothing else will explain the astonishing flattening out of all resistance. It is not in accordance with the character the Dutch have maintained for centuries. They are as brave, stubborn and pugnacious people as there is in the world, and if their hearts had been really in the war they would have fought Roberts with a determination that would have worn out his army, no matter how numerous it had been. To understand this one has only to recall how the Dutch fought the overwhelming Spanish force from dyke to dyke for 80 years, practically destroyed the Spanish navy, and humbled that of Great Britain. But the Boers are not going to fight for a stupid and greedy ring of oligarchs, who were out-generated at every point the moment that Great Britain put a first-class man in control of affairs. The average Boer did not see any reason why he should fight to the death merely to fill the pockets of Oom Paul and his crowd. He could sell his cattle and wool to quite as good advantage to the Uitlanders, and so he shouldered his Martini and went back to his flocks and herds.

THE METHODIST Episcopal Church has honored itself by the election of a very good comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic, as well as a sincere Christian and a most eloquent pulpit orator a Bishop. Bishop David H. Moore, of Cincinnati, O., who was elected at the recent Quadrennial Conference, was born near Athens, O., in 1828, and graduated from the Ohio University in 1850. He was stationed at Marietta, O., in 1851, and in 1852 raised a company for the 87th Ohio. He was captured at Harper's Ferry, but upon being exchanged helped organize the 125th Ohio, of which regiment he rose to be Lieutenant-Colonel, and commanded it in many battles. He resigned Sept. 20, 1864, and returned to his ministerial duties. He has served as President of the Wesleyan College for Women at Cincinnati, as Chancellor of the Colorado Seminary, as Chancellor of the University of Denver, and in 1884 was elected editor of the *Western Christian Advocate*, which position he has held ever since. He is a genial, lovable, popular man, and regarded as one of the first orators of the country. He belongs to one of the Hamilton County Posts.

DURING the recent Annual Convention of the United Confederate Veterans at Louisville, \$3,200 were raised for the monument to Jeff Davis at Richmond. Yet the City of Washington remains without a monument to the private soldiers and sailors of the Union, who defeated Jeff Davis, and saved the country from dissolution.

BRITISH good taste affected to be seriously shocked by our rejoicing over whipping such an inferior enemy as Spain. How about the taste of the present rejoicings?

THEY have woman's rights in full flower in the Philippines. The women boss the ranch, and none of the men dares do anything of importance until he goes home and tells his wife about it. The women go around the country, attend to politics and other things, while the men stay at home, mind the children, and do whatever work is done. The women smoke cigars, chew betel nut, and can expostulate with the volume and accuracy of the most talented facetious chatters in this country. Recently a young lady, very handsome and clad in silk and lace, and wearing only slippers, called on some of our officers on business. She dropped her fan, and picked it up gracefully with her toes.

Circumstantial evidence is always received with doubt, but it really seems as if Aguinaldo had been severely wounded, if not killed. For the first time since the beginning of the Tagal rebellion there is an account of Aguinaldo being within reach of our rifles. Then it was only because he had been vigorously run down by Maj. March, with a detachment of the 33d U. S. Vols., who succeeded in surprising him in his camp, in the mountains, about 100 miles northeast of Vigan, May 19. An officer trying to rally a party of Filipinos was fired on, and fell from his richly-capparisoned horse. The horse was captured, and found to be carrying a quantity of Aguinaldo's private and public papers. Vigorous pursuit failed to come up with those bearing off the body, but reports later came of a party of natives descending the river with a raft on which was a litter containing a body covered with palm leaves. It is felt certain to have been either Aguinaldo or his Adjutant.

APPARENTLY, the influence of the German, French and Belgian newspapers comes cheaply. Telegrams from Brussels say that Dr. Leyds has been getting the biggest ones for from \$100 to \$125 a week.

## DEATH OF PAST COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF REA.

Again the Grand Army of the Republic is called upon to mourn the death of one of its most eminent members, and a comrade who had been identified with it from its organization, who was a tireless and enthusiastic worker for its well-being, and who had been honored by its advancement to the highest position in its gift.

Past Commander-in-Chief John P. Rea died at his home in Minneapolis, May 28, of cirrhosis of the arteries. He had been ill for some months, and greatly troubled with rheumatism, which treatment at West Baden Springs failed to relieve.

Comrade John Patterson Rea was born in Chester Co., Pa., Oct. 13, 1840, and came of distinguished Revolutionary ancestry. He went to Ohio to attend college, but promptly enlisted in Co. B, 11th Ohio, in the first call. After his discharge he helped raise Co. I, 1st Ohio Cav., and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in it. He served three years in this regiment, rising to be Captain, and being brevetted Major for gallantry in action at Cleveland, Tenn. When mustered out he was the senior Captain of his regiment, and had a splendid record for faithful service and bravery. Returning to Ohio, he re-entered the Ohio Wesleyan University at Delaware, O., and graduated in 1867, at the head of his class. He was admitted to the bar, and went to Lancaster, Pa., to practice. While there he helped organize Geo. H. Thomas Post, and became its Commander. President Grant appointed him Assessor of Internal Revenue for the Ninth District of Pennsylvania.

In 1876 he went to Minneapolis, to become editor of the *Minneapolis Tribune*, which position he held a year, and then returned to the practice of the law, which he continued ever afterward, except when sitting on the bench, and achieved a fine position in the Minnesota bar. He was twice elected Probate Judge, and declined a third term, and served four years as Judge of the Fourth Judicial District. He was earnest in G. A. R. work, became Commander of his Post, Junior Vice Commander, and Commander of the Department of Minnesota, was elected Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic in 1884, and Commander-in-Chief in 1887. He was present at every Encampment, Department or National, and took the liveliest interest in all the proceedings.

Judge Rea's remains were to be removed on the evening of May 30 to his old home in Lancaster Co., Pa., and after the Memorial Day services at the Exposition Building in Minneapolis a large number of comrades and friends gathered at his late home on Nicollet Island to pay their last tribute over his body.

It was then realized forcibly that for the first time since the institution of Memorial Day the voice of Commander John P. Rea was silent, for he had always felt it a duty to respond to calls for his services as a speaker; for he had the gift of impressing audiences by his sympathetic, thoughtful utterances always worthy of the occasion.

The services at the residence were under the charge of Morgan Post.

Pervent and eloquent addresses were made by Judge William Lochren as the representative of the Loyal Legion and by Judge Henry G. Hecks for the Grand Army. A guard composed of members of the 13th Minn. National Guard, who had been in service in Manila, escorted the body to the depot. Co. A of that regiment had been organized by Comrade Rea some 20 years previously, and he had served as its first Captain. The remains were taken to Pennsylvania by Mrs. Rea and her sister-in-law, Mrs. Gould, and on reaching Philadelphia they were met by Adj. Gen. T. J. Stewart, representing National Headquarters, G. A. R.; Past Commanders-in-Chief Wagner and Beath, Department Commander Jas. F. Morrison, Department Chaplain John W. Sayers, Gen. St. Clair A. Mulholland, Col. A. C. Berghill and others.

A uniformed guard from several Posts accompanied the hearse, the casket being covered by the flag, to the Pennsylvania Railroad station.

On reaching Lancaster the remains were taken in charge by Post No. 84, of which Post Comrade Rea had been a charter member, and from there were taken to Little Britain Township, in Lancaster County, to the home of his sister, Mrs. William Black, where the final services were held under charge of the Rev. T. J. McClean, pastor of the Little Britain Presbyterian Church. In addition to the religious services, addresses were made by Maj. Fulton, of Oxford, Pa., an intimate friend of Judge Rea from boyhood days, and by Col. Robert B. Beath, for the G. A. R.

The interment was in the same plot in the churchyard where Judge Rea's father and mother and other relatives are buried.

The services at the grave were under charge of Post 84, of Lancaster, assisted by members of the Posts at Quarryville and Oxford. A large number of mourning relatives and friends were also present.

THE decision in the Supreme Court against Adolph Dewey and his men turned out a pure technicality. The Court found that the fleet which the Admiral led into Manila Bay was superior, ship for ship, to the Spanish fleet if the shore batteries, mines and torpedoes were not considered. Taking these into account, however, the Americans encountered a strongly superior force. But the law governing the distribution of prize money, booty and rewards, contains no mention of land batteries, torpedoes or mines, so that these could not be considered, and the suit was therefore dismissed.

THE humor of the campaign begins uproariously with that vociferous anti-trust champion, Tammany, running the meanest kind of a trust, and one most oppressive upon the poor people—an ice trust, which trebles the cost of the article to workmen and their families.



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An Exciting Dash Across the Wide Valley.

Eight sorrier, more tired or hungrier boys never crawled out of a cedar thicket than Si and his companions, when they were roused up, in the forenoon, by the brooding heat of the sun and the stinging of little clouds of fierce gnats.

They had in that little band fatigue enough for a hard-marched company, and hunger, and aching limbs, and aching heads. Every tendon and muscle seemed to have the toothache, from the excited rushes of the day before.

Si had not only had his face badly scratched and torn by the brush, but

"Hist, listen to the text," interrupted Si. The preacher's strong voice floated up clear and distinct on the hot air.

"The text to which I shall invite your attention this morning, beloved brethren and sisters, will be found in the 12th chapter of the prophet Jeremiah, 12th and 13th verses—

"The spoilers are come upon all the high places through the wilderness."

"Great Scott, I wonder if that means Sherman's necktie taken Atlanta?" whispered Si, hopefully.

Story likely that Grant took Richmond," returned his partner. "He was in a place called the Wilderness the last we heard."

"For the sword of the Lord shall devour from the one end of the land even to the other end of the land. No flesh shall have peace."

"Let it devour," murmured Shorty. "That's a little bit, that's what it's for. That's what we get \$13 a month for. And I should like a little piece of flesh, myself—say 10 pound 'em ham."

"They have sown wheat but shall reap thorns," continued the preacher. "They have put themselves to pain, but shall not profit."

"Thought we were sowing mainly little bullets and 12-pound shells, and old

clothes," whispered Shorty; "and reapin' dead men, and prisoners, and banks o' red mud. He needn't bother 'bout what it'll profit us. That's our look-out. Well, you stay, ol' man, and listen to the sermon, and find out whether Sherman's took Atlanta, or Grant Richmond. I'm going to pirot around on the other side, and see what chance there is there for grub. The boys are simply starving, and I feel as hoiler as a stove-pipe."

"It's a basket meeting," said Si to himself after the sermon was well under way, as a couple of old negroes drove up with some ancient carpenter, from which they proceeded to take various supplies of food and deposit them under the trees. He had noticed before that many of the people had brought bags probably containing grub for their horses. "It won't never do to let Shorty and the boys see this. I'll make 'em plum crazy. I must move 'em over somewhere else."

"There ain't a sign of a chance around here," said Shorty, coming up at the moment. "If anything it's worse than it is on this side. I just can't stand it to see Pete sittin' up there cryin' because he's so hungry. I'm going to rush down there and grab some o' that stuff, no matter what the consequences."

"For the Lord's sake, don't, Shorty," said Si, with all the earnestness he could put into his voice, and grasping his partner's arm. "I'll spile all there's ailed-bred men enough there to lick us in a minute, and then we're done for."

"The availed had it not been reinforced by the arrival of a squad of conscripters, who at that time made it a point to be present at all public gatherings. The people generally, who were all dispirited and discouraged, were all dispirited and discouraged, and invited them to join in and share their food, to which the conscripters, some quite willing. But two of the young 'uns, with babes in their arms, screamed when they saw the squad riding up and their husbands lost all appetite for their food."

"Come, Rea and Vance," said the officer in command, "you'll both go to along with us. We uns done come over yah particularly fer youns. You're well enough o' yer wounds ter go back, and the army's wiles, with babes in their arms, had ter go, and you uns've had a long spell at home."

"Shorty saw, with dismay, that, whatever the effect of the war, the conscripters' own were of saw-mill vigor."

"There won't be no core left," he whispered to Si. "For a year, for a year, they've even cracked the chicken bones and sucking the marrow out. I hate to see men make hogs o' themselves and not know how to take care o' their own."

"The wives of the men ordered to the front made pitiful pleas to the officer in command, but the utmost concession they could obtain was that their husbands might be allowed to take on horseback, and must report at the railroad station in the morning and join the others being sent forward."

The joy of the meeting had faded for the heavy-hearted conscripts and their wives. They bade a sorrowful adieu to their brethren and sisters of the church, the men mounted their horses, took their wives, each holding a babe in her arms, and slowly wended homeward, while the conscripters rode off in search of fresh victims."

The bell called again, with a heart-breaking infection in it this time it seemed, and the congregation gathered again in the church for the second service.

"The spoilers are come upon all high places through the wilderness," announced the preacher, resuming his sermon.

"Si," said Shorty, "there's no use talkin'. The only thing to do is to jump this Sunday mornin' across the valley. The boys is crazy with hunger, and weak and limber as wet rags. If we wait till night they won't be able to march a mile. We never can get them across that valley walkin'."

"Besides, it ain't stealing the horses. It's only borrowin' 'em. We'll let the horses go after we get across the valley into the woods, and they'll be back in a week, and we'll have 'em on our own part. I ain't so blasted squeamish about takin' rebel horses, wherever you find 'em. But you always was different."

"Well," said Si, "I'm persuaded, 'let's do it. But only take me a horse, and leave the women alone, as far as you kin. I'll take that bay, which belongs to the preacher, who's been lambasting the women and preachin' to raise their own selves alone, and started again on the opposite bank, and started again on the hills. But they won't only drag themselves alone, and had scarcely strength enough to hide in the weeds by the roadside at the sound of approaching hoofs."